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March 28, 2005

Hearing Clerk U.S. Department of Agriculture Room 1081-S Washington, DC 20250-9200

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in response to the Departments request for comments on which representative base period should be used for the proposed hop marketing order. Perrault & Sons has tried to react responsibly to the current dismal hop market by reducing its hop acreage by almost fifty percent in recent years. The 1997 -2002 base period would therefore be the most advantageous for our company. But, in the interest of moving forward with the proposed order we will be able to support either base period. We only ask that the Department expedite the process and let the growers vote on the proposed order as quickly as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our comments.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Perrault

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President